



NAD 2015

NATIONAL ACADEMIC DECATHLON

*Program Book*



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I am greatly honoured and proud of the initiative to host this programme targeted to internationalize our local students, especially rural school students.

The advent of the National Academic Decathlon is the acceptance by the Government and the Malaysian Institute for Debate and Public Speaking to the clarion call of the Ministry of Education to have a better standard of English through making English a compulsory pass in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia examinations, thus the need for a high-impact program suited for Malaysian youths to learn, utilize the language and at the same time have fun while connecting with other students so that their appreciation of the language only grows.

I would like to firstly thank the Malaysian Government, especially the Prime Minister, Dato' Sri Haji Mohammad Najib Tun Haji Abdul Razak, whom with his support and patronage to this program, has given the impact and prestige this English enrichment program deserves.

For their tireless work to improve the standard of education and youth empowerment in the country, a word of thanks goes to the Ministry of Education as well as the Ministry of Youth and Sports for their dedication and assistance

I would like to record my gratitude to the host university, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) for graciously having the schoolchildren on campus and having their students transfer their experience and knowledge to the leaders of tomorrow.

Last but definitely not least, appreciation to the Malaysian Institute for Debate and Public Speaking and the Association of Malaysian Debating & Public Speaking Alumni for their efforts in organizing this groundbreaking event, mobilizing the debating and public speaking community to raise the bar for the students.

I have high hopes for the success of the participants not just in the programme but also in their studies and also later as the future of Malaysia. All the best and good luck.

**YBhg Prof Dato' Dr. Mohamad Kadim bin Suaidi**  
Vice Chancellor UNIMAS





It is with great pleasure that I welcome all participants to the inaugural National Academic Decathlon 2015.

Throughout the years of my service as a civil servant, I have been fortunate enough to be in a position where I could conduct high impact programs that will support the growth and development of young Malaysians. And now, I am once again placed in a position where I am able to dedicate my energy to help educate and at the same time, promote the use of the English language amongst young Malaysians.

Thus, I am extremely pleased to lead this exciting program that inculcates essential life skills that would enhance the overall learning experience of our future leaders. For this program to be a success, it must be one that is extremely accessible to students from all segments of society to not just represent their school or their state; but the nation.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parties that have been in constant support of my efforts to serve Malaysia and continue contributing to developing Malaysian education. In particular, I would like to thank the Prime Minister, YAB Dato' Sri Mohammad Najib Tun Abdul Razak who has agreed to be the Patron of this competition and ultimately remain the stalwart of progress in our Malaysia.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Education as well as the Ministry of Youth and Sports who has endorsed and facilitated the organisation of this event, I truly appreciate the faith you have placed in this program.

I would also like to dedicate a special thanks to Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, Universiti Utara Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia and Limkokwing University Creative Technology who have all graciously agreed to play host to this program nationwide and contribute towards the success of this competition. Also, my greatest gratitude goes to the Malaysian Institute for Debate and Public Speaking as well as the Association of Malaysian Debating & Public Speaking Alumni for their great committee who assisted us in the organisation of this entire event.

My hope and best wishes will always remain with our future leaders, the participants of this event, and I'd like to wish all the participants good luck!

**Sen. Prof. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Ibrahim Shah Abu Shah**  
Chairman





I am proud that an initiative has been taken to bring Academic Decathlon to Malaysia and felt honoured that UNIMAS has been chosen to host the competition. This is a very commendable effort that will give exposure to our local students, rural students in particular, to events and activities of international standing.

The birth of the National Academic Decathlon should be seen as another effort to strengthen the standard of English among students in the country. I believe the NAD will provide a great opportunity for students to learn and utilize the language in a fun way while connecting with other students so as to be able to appreciate the language together.

The NAD is created with a view to teaching students a whole range of skills, such as communication skills, critical thinking skills, leadership and teamwork that would help create holistic individuals. And equally important, the NAD will make it possible for our students to compete in the academic-based contest internationally.

It will be good to see our students compete against students of other countries in the Tournament of Champions in Yale in the United States. I sincerely hope that this will be the beginning of another Malaysian students' success story in the international arena that all of us should be proud of.

To conclude may I wish the NAD success and good luck to all the participants.

YAB Tan Sri Datuk Patinggi Haji Adenan Satem  
Chief Minister of Sarawak



# About NAD



National Academic Decathlon is a unique and exciting international tournament open to all Malaysian students. The program is derived from the program which had long been conducted in the United States to assist students in questioning techniques, discuss and debate on current issues as well as promote reading and bring the philosophy of continuous learning.

This competition was also conceived to promote the use of English in everyday conversation using unique academic challenges that excite and educate students especially amongst rural Malaysian schools.

With the establishment and development program internationally and in the United States, it is our intention to establish a program featuring the best practices of existing programs, especially for students of Malaysia, where our students have the opportunity to participate at a regional and national level, and also at the international level.

Students will explore their learning capacity of modern approaches in the education system. They also will be tested in public speaking techniques and group problem solving. The team that wins the National Academic Decathlon in Malaysia, will be given the opportunity to represent Malaysia in the Tournament of Champions at Yale University with a mission to become the best team in the world.





*... and our fifth year Anniversary !*

**MIDP** is a social initiative which has been created to facilitate the promotion and development of Debate and Public Speaking as the main tool for Human Capital Development. It is therefore a support system, complementing government efforts to create holistic individuals by providing consultancy and training to any organization planning to develop an effective thinking and speaking program.

As a social enterprise, the institute is run by former student leaders who were part of the Malaysian education system, and were themselves success stories in the international competitive debating and public speaking arena both as speakers and coaches. MIDP stands as an initiative that carries a moral imperative, a commitment to share and spread the knowledge that will significantly enhance and complete the overall learning experience of fellow Malaysians.

Our main short-term priority is to increase the number of Debate and Public Speaking educators (Expertise) in the country. Because we are very particular about the quality of the education we introduce, we are prepared to stay, consult, train, and work with relevant parties, with the hope of eventually creating a situation where enough expertise will be available to truly create transformations in the way we approach Debate & Public Speaking programs and potentially other soft-skill programs.

With the National Academic Decathlon, MIDP seeks to make learning more fun and interactive. MIDP believes that by exposing students to issues of interest, will create better understanding and quicker development of analytical and critical thinking.



# Schedule



## Tentative

### DAY 01

| Time              | Activities               |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7.00am - 9.00am   | Breakfast & Registration |
| 9.00am - 10.00am  | Participant's Briefing   |
| 10.00am - 11.30am | Writing Challenge        |
| 11.30am - 1.00pm  | Debate Round 1           |
| 1.00pm - 2.00pm   | Lunch                    |
| 2.00pm - 4.00pm   | Debate Round 2           |
| 4.00pm - 4.30pm   | Tea Break                |
| 4.30pm - 6.00pm   | Debate Round 3           |
| 6.00pm            | Dinner                   |

### DAY 02

| Time             | Activities                      |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 7.00am - 9.00am  | Breakfast                       |
| 9.00am - 10.30am | Brain Challenge                 |
| 10.30am - 1.00pm | Group Challenge                 |
| 1.00pm - 2.00pm  | Lunch                           |
| 2.00pm - 4.00pm  | Public Speaking                 |
| 4.00pm - 6.00pm  | Closing & Prize Giving Ceremony |
| 6.00pm           | Hi-Tea                          |





**UNIMAS** Universiti Malaysia Sarawak is Malaysia's eighth university was officially incorporated on 24 December 1992. A university that is contemporary in character and forward-looking in outlook, it is committed in providing the nation with leaders, managers, scientists and technical specialists as well as thoughtful citizens who are capable of handling the complex challenges of our common future - confidently, competently, and creatively.

UNIMAS has won the Premiere Information Technology Award from the Malaysian Government, the "Bridging the Digital Divide" category of AFACT's eAsia Award. It has also won the Industry Innovators Award for System Development and Application from the US-based Society of Satellite Professionals International (SSPI), for its success in setting up a telecentre in the remote community of Bario, Sarawak, to assist the community in communication, education, e-commerce, health and government services.

The knowledge discovery initiatives at UNIMAS are premised partly upon the wealth of natural resources and diverse socio-cultural make up of the State of Sarawak. While UNIMAS is strong in biodiversity study, this and most of other research activities at this university are firmly based on contemporary technologies. Prestigious International R&D awards recently received by UNIMAS include 7 gold medals, 2 silver medals and 3 bronze medals during the SIIF Korea and secured 44 projects under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) Science Fund grant, with a total amounting to RM7.59 million. A further RM2.88 million was secured from the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) for 81 research projects.



# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



## ADVISOR I

Deputy PM of Malaysia

Tan Sri Muhyiddin  
bin Yassin



## PATRON

Prime Minister of Malaysia

YAB Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib  
Tun Haji Abdul Razak



## ADVISOR II

Youth & Sports Minister

YB Encik Khairy  
bin Jamaluddin



## CHAIRMAN

Senator

Y.Bhg Senator Tan Sri Dato'  
Sri Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Abu Shah

## Deputy Chairman I

Director of Arts and  
Co-curriculum, KPM

Rozainum bt. Ahmad

## Deputy Chairman II

Chairman of National  
Debaters Alumni

Iqbal Hafiedz bin  
Ahmed Bazari

## Program Director

CEO Malaysian Institute for  
Debate & Public Speaking

Maizura bt Mokhsein

## Deputy Program Director I

MIDP, General Manager

Ahmed Faris Amir

## Deputy Program Director II

MIDP, Creative Director

Iskandar Abdullah



# STEERING COMMITTEE

## CHAIRMAN

Prof Madya Dr. Fitri  
Suraya Mohamad

### Event Director

Mr. Azlan Ramli

### Closing Ceremony

Mr. Bong Azmir Bong Hata

### Finance Director

Mr. Shahrul Ahmad

### Media & Publicity

Mrs Dayang Nor Hajjah  
Awang Daud

### Production

Mrs Dayanie Hashim

### Food & Beverage

Mr. Azlan Ramli

### Accomodation

Mrs Dayang Zuliana  
Abg Abd Rahman

### Tech Support

Ms Laila Abg Ahmad

### Security

Lt. Kol (R) Mohd  
Melintang Abdullah

### Emergency Response

Dr Zahara Abdul Manap

### Transportation

Mr. Ngerantar Undi

### Logistics

Mr. Henry Tening Sengeng

## Multimedia and Visual Recordings

Mr. Fitzpatrick Ricky Guing | Mrs. Wilhlimina Anak Desmond Tawie



# Competition



**Brain Challenge** Get ready for a test of memory and problem solving skills. One person from each team will be chosen to face the biggest brainy challenge of the year.



**Group Challenge** It's a race against the clock for teams to answer questions using a special clicker. Every second makes a difference.



**Public Speaking** Dazzle your audience with content, style and strategy. One public speaker to be nominated from each team to present a speech on a given topic.



**Writing Challenge** Work in a team to prepare points on a given topic. Emphasis is on main idea, structure and clarity of idea, content, style and creativity of the essay.



**Debate Challenge** In a three on three debate battle royale, participants will argue motions related to the theme against other competing schools.



# Modules

## General Knowledge

Discover amazing facts about the world with topics that range from natural wonders, endangered species, highest grossing movies of all time and brilliant innovations that changed the world.



## Nationalism

Step back in time and learn the challenges during the formation of Malaysia. Celebrate our national icons and other Malaysian achievements. Discover the structure in Malaysian Governance and about the Malaysian Foreign Policy.



## Economics

The world of economics has the power to influence our daily lives and even collapse nations across the globe. Delve into the principles of banter to money, supply vs. demand and learn about the global financial crisis.



## Current Issues

Learn about current issues that shape the world such as the MH 17 tragedy, the East Coast floods, Impact of GST and the international threat known as ISIS.



## World History

Get ready for an exciting journey of world history viewed through the Malaysian perspective with topics like World War II and Rise & Fall of Communism in Malaya.





# National Academic Decathlon CLOSING CEREMONY

Sarawak Regional Round

Sunday | 12th April 2015 | 4.00 PM

Arena Gemilang | DeTAR PUTRA UNIMAS

- 04.00 pm** : Arrival of Participants
- 04.10 pm** : Arrival of Invited Guests
- 04.15 pm** : Arrival of YBhg Prof Dato' Dr Mohamad Kadim bin Suaidi,  
Vice Chancellor of UNIMAS
- 04.20 pm** : Arrival of YB Sen. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Shah Abu Shah,  
Chairman of the National Academic Decathlon 2015
- 04.25 pm** : Arrival of YBhg Datu Dr. Hatta bin Solhi,  
Chairman of UNIMAS Board of Directors
- 04.30 pm** : Arrival of YB Datuk Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah  
representing YAB Chief Minister of Sarawak
- : National Anthem
- : Doa Recital
- : Student Performance
- : Opening Speech  
by YBhg Prof Dato' Dr Mohamad Kadim bin Suaidi,  
Vice Chancellor of UNIMAS
- : Speech by YB Sen. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Shah Abu Shah,  
Chairman of the National Academic Decathlon 2015
- : Closing Speech  
by YB Datuk Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah
- : Prize Giving Ceremony
- : Break for Hi - Tea





KEMENTERIAN  
PENDIDIKAN  
MALAYSIA



**Majlis Penutupan**  
**National Academic Decathlon 2015 (Sarawak Regional Round)**  
**Ahad, 12 April 2015, 4.00 petang**  
**Arena Gemilang, DeTAR PUTRA UNIMAS**

- 04:00 ptg : Ketibaan Peserta
- 04:10 ptg : Ketibaan Tetamu Jemputan
- 04:15 ptg : Ketibaan YBhg Prof Dato' Dr Mohamad Kadim bin Suaidi  
Naib Canselor UNIMAS
- 04:20 ptg : Ketibaan YB Sen. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Abu Shah  
Pengerusi Program National Academic Decathlon 2015
- 04:25 ptg : Ketibaan YBhg Datu Dr Hatta bin Solhi  
Pengerusi Lembaga Pengarah UNIMAS
- 04:30 ptg : Ketibaan YB Datuk Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah  
Menteri Muda Perumahan dan Menteri Muda Pembangunan Belia  
Sarawak
- : Lagu Negaraku
- : Bacaan Doa
- : Persembahan Pelajar
- : Ucapan Aluan oleh YBhg Prof Dato' Dr Mohamad Kadim bin Suaidi  
Naib Canselor UNIMAS
- : Ucapan oleh YB Sen. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Abu Shah  
Pengerusi Program National Academic Decathlon 2015
- : Ucapan Penutup oleh YB Datuk Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah  
Menteri Muda Perumahan dan Menteri Muda Pembangunan Belia  
Sarawak mewakili Ketua Menteri Sarawak
- : Penyampaian Hadiah
- : Penyampaian Cenderahati
- : Jamuan Ringan
- 6:30 ptg : Bersurai

**Dress Code : Smart Casual**





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*Thank You*